Siskiyou WMA WORK PLAN
Supplemental Projects
1 YEAR CONTRACT: January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

Contract Lead Group (County, RCD, or Other) and contact information:
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SUPPLEMENTAL WMA PROJECT
Siskiyou County Weed Management Area
Supplemental Project Proposal

WMA Supplemental Proposal COVER SHEET

Supplemental Executive Summary (MAX 10 lines):
The Siskiyou County Weed Management Area's (SCWMA) mission is to "cooperatively coordinate and prioritize activities necessary for the prevention, exclusion, control and eradication of noxious and invasive weeds in Siskiyou County" *(Mission Statement, Strategic Plan).* The SCWMA has demonstrated a cooperative ability to complete projects in a timely manner with documented success of decreased noxious weed acres and populations (for details please refer to the 2009 WMA Siskiyou County Annual Report). The number of acres worked (gross) continues to increase (79,052 in 2008 to 141,273 in 2009), due to survey and new population finds (with sustained funding). The number of acres treated (net) has decreased (5,493 in 2008 to 3,924 in 2009) in some weed populations because there are fewer weeds to treat, indicating overall progress in the war on A-rated weeds. In 2009 eight SCWMA partners reported in-kind weed treatment costs of $1,024,221.00 and the Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture's share of that total was $739,200.

Your WMA's TOP THREE Accomplishments over the past 2 years (Max- 2 lines each):
1. Dedicated SCWMA partners have made great strides in controlling weed populations through diligent acquisition of non-traditional funding and hands-on weed work (increased $'s and increased worked acres).

2. Italian thistle progress after 6 years. Perennial pepperweed progress, Wildlife Refuge, Sheepy West Unit after 7+ years. Siskiyou Mariposa Lily, endangered species candidate, population increase by reducing Dyer's woad.

3. SCWMA partners reached 8,097 people at 37 events and activities in 2009 and 5,763 people at 15 events and activities in 2008. Most of the educational outreach is in-kind.

Supplemental Summary of Methods Used (MAX 4 lines) :
SCWMA partners: survey (landscape, roads, burned and disturbed areas by foot and vehicle), GPS (mapping), treatment (hand pulling, digging, tarping, and herbicide (back pack, ATV, truck)).
Project proposals: herbicide spot applications by back pack and ATV.

Supplemental Summary of Net and Gross Acres:
Estimated Net acres proposed to actually treat: Project 1= 107.09 acres, Project 2= 13.28 acres.
Gross (worked) acres proposed to be survey/covered while conducting treatments:
Project 1= 1,725 acres, Project 2= 2,748 acres.
Estimated Total Cost per acre for proposed treatments:
Proposed Project 1= $17.772 per acre, Proposed Project 2= $5.24 per acre,
Total (Project 1 & 2, including in-kind) = $24.56 per acre
Estimated project total ($):

WMA Supplemental Proposal = $45,056
In-Kind Cost = $64,806

Project Grand Total = $109,862
(Details in attached budget)

Supplemental Summary of In-Kind Contributions toward the Project (MAX 4 lines):
Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture: experienced seasonal weed crew and supervisor (labor), equipment, herbicide, mapping, monitoring and administrative (invoicing and reporting).
Shasta-Trinity National Forest: labor, equipment, mechanical treatment, mapping and administrative.

Supplemental Projects: Siskiyou County Weed Management Area

Supplemental Project Leads for projects, contract reporting and invoicing:
Sherry Lawson, Fiscal Technician, project invoicing and payments, (530) 841-4111, slawson@co.siskiyou.ca.us
Randy Casson, Vegetation Management Supervisor, (530) 841-4113, rcasson@co.siskiyou.ca.us
Jodi Aceves, Deputy Agriculture Commissioner, (530) 841-4115, jaceves@co.siskiyou.ca.us
Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture: 525 South Foothill Drive, Yreka CA 96097.

Supplemental Proposed Projects:
These two projects are cooperative, due to the checkerboard land ownership between private and federal lands. We have made very large investments managing and collecting (including survey) data for these infestations. The funds requested will be utilized to put contract crews and experienced seasonal workers treating weeds during the peak of the season. The contract crews are beneficial because:

- ✓ Contract crews are supplied with vehicles, fuel, backpacks and crew leaders
- ✓ Contract crews are motivated and have past experience in the specific projects targeted in this proposal
- ✓ Our crews can focus on the treatment of priority pioneer infestations and the leading edge areas
- ✓ Contract crews require minimal supervision from our staff
- ✓ Allows sites to be worked at least twice per year
- ✓ Most importantly, without funding for contract crews, we will lose momentum on these important projects.

Supplemental Project 1 – Musk/Scotch thistle Containment/Leading Edge Project

Supplemental Priority Topic Area Being Addressed (from request for proposal announcement):
This project addresses priority area #1 & #2. A containment strategy has been carefully considered and established (see attached map). Pioneer Musk infestations will be eradicated.

Supplemental Project Goal (6 LINES MAX):
Musk and Scotch thistle were expanding their range in Siskiyou County until 2004 when a containment effort was funded by USFS RAC funds. Our goals are to:

- ✓ Focus on satellite Musk and Scotch thistle sites and stop the advance of the leading edge.
- ✓ Eradicate pioneer infestations.
- ✓ Continue to reduce the main infestation at Black Butte, limiting the main seed source.

What are the project's long-term benefits and/or region-wide significance (6 LINES MAX):

- ✓ Musk/Scotch thistle is spread by multiple vectors: Birds/rodents eat and store seeds, vehicles/animals/hikers transport seeds many miles to new sites.
- ✓ The Mount Shasta Wilderness Area is currently free of musk and scotch thistle.
- ✓ Promote conifer seedling survival and natural vegetation by reducing competition of noxious weeds.
- ✓ Help preserve the aesthetic value, maintaining recreational popularity of the Mount Shasta area.

- ✓ The project area is located in the headwaters of the Shasta and Sacramento Rivers. Musk thistle is moving towards the steep and rugged Sacramento River canyon where control will be very difficult.

Supplemental Project Objectives and Methods (1/2 page MAX):

Task/Objective 1: The SCDA will target all satellite Musk and Scotch sites. The leading edge east of Weed (city) will be treated utilizing contract crews. Biological control agents established on private and Forest Service land have reduced the population density. The Shasta Trinity National Forest has made an effort to reduce Musk thistle populations along roads using mechanical methods.

Task/Objective 2: The SCDA will survey and treat outlying pioneer infestations in the McCloud area. These sites are encroaching into the McCloud and Pit River drainages. The goal for these pioneer infestations is eradication!

Task/Objective 3: The SCDA and USFS will continue to survey areas for new infestations. Any new sites will be mapped and treated. All survey and weed location data will be managed by the SCDA with GIS data management technology.

Task/Objective 4: Work with private and public land owners to create a more unified effort regarding Musk thistle control.

Supplemental Performance measures (¼ page max):

How will you quantitatively monitor your project? ***Distinguish between year one goals versus long term goals following treatment.***

We will continue to track acres treated/worked and will provide data such as % change, photographs and graphs so a yearly comparison can be made. Map of the Musk/Scotch project area attached.

Supplemental Project Title: Project 2 – Hawkinsville Squarrose knapweed Eradication Project

Supplemental Project 2 Priority Topic Area Being Addressed (from request for proposal announcement):

This project addresses priority area #1. The eventual and complete eradication of this "A-rated" pest in the project area (see attached map).

Supplemental Project 2 Goal (6 LINES MAX):

Our goal is control and reduction of the Hawkinsville site and eradication of pioneer infestations. Progress is being made. Where solid fields of Squarrose knapweed once occurred, an occasional plant can now be found. We must be as persistent as the weeds we are trying to eradicate.

Supplemental Project 2 What are the project's long-term benefits and/or region-wide significance:

Eradication of the knapweed species from Hawkinsville will:

- ✓ Enhance the productivity and health of forest/rangeland by reducing competition with noxious weeds.
- ✓ Help re-establish native vegetation by eliminating allellopathic knapweeds.
- ✓ Help maintain Siskiyou County's exceptionally diverse ecology including the nearby rare and endangered species (Siskiyou Mariposa Lily and Yreka Phlox).
- ✓ Improve water quality by reducing erosion potential and decreasing stream sediment.
- ✓ Improve the wildlife habitat and winter range for local deer herds and upland game species.
- ✓ Increase the land value within the treatment area.

Supplemental Project 2 Objectives and Methods (1/2 page MAX):

Task/Objective 1: Knapweed detection and eradication will be conducted on private and public lands. The Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture (SCDA) will lead this project on private land. The Klamath National Forest botanist will be directing activities on USFS land.

Task/Objective 2: A licensed Pest Control Operator (PCO) will be retained to treat major sites with backpack crews. These crews will be directed by County staff.

Task/Objective 3: County crews will focus on outlying sites utilizing ATV's and backpack sprayers.
Task/Objective 4: USFS staff and available fire crews or contract crews will be doing mechanical removal on USFS land.

Task/Objective 5: USFS and County staff will cooperatively survey adjacent land and road systems.

Task/Objective 6: New sites will be mapped with GPS and treated.

Task/Objective 7: All known sites will be visited at least twice to increase detection and control. Often the natural vegetation is dense and green early in the year and detection of knapweed can be difficult. Later in the season most of the annual grasses have dried up, making the knapweed more visible. Knapweeds also germinate through the spring and summer, sometimes flowering in the first year, so early treatment may miss late germinants.

Supplemental Performance measures (¼ page max):
How will you quantitatively monitor your project? ***Distinguish between year one goals versus long term goals following treatment.***
We will continue to track acres treated/worked and will provide data such as % change, photographs and graphs so a yearly comparison can be made. Map showing the project area is attached.